APR/MAY VOL. 23, NO. 2

NEWSLETTER

A FRESH START FOR EARLY READERS

MEET OUR NEW 1000 BOOKS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN MASCOT

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LINCOLNWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY

REGISTRATION & EVENT INFORMATION
Please visit lincolnwoodlibrary.org, call (847) 677-5277, or stop by to register.

[R] REGISTRATION REQUIRED
Registrants DO NOT need a Lincolnwood Library card to attend.

[C] REGISTRATION REQUIRED WITH LINCOLNWOOD CARD
Registrants DO need a Lincolnwood Library card to attend.

[D] DROP-IN
Everyone is welcome to attend, but supplies and space may be limited.

[H] HYBRID
Registrants can choose to visit in person or attend live online via Zoom. New members should register with their email address to receive the Zoom information.

[Z] VIRTUAL ON ZOOM
These programs are offered using Zoom and will be live at their scheduled time. Please include your email address in your registration to receive instructions on how to join the Zoom event.

ALLERGEN ALERT
These programs include food or snacks. Certain items may contain or come into contact with wheat, eggs, nuts, and milk.

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

One of my favorite things about public libraries is they truly are for all ages. And I am proud of how much this small library offers to the community–we hear very frequently how impressed residents are with the quality of adult programs we offer. Whether you are looking for something new to learn, needing information about something practical, or simply enjoying a movie or music program, we have all of that and more.

But we also offer amazing programs for children, so I'd like to talk about some of what we have available for our newest residents, the children ages birth-5. Anyone who has been in the library on a Wednesday morning knows about Michael's Musical Storytime, which is so popular that you need (free) tickets. Just in the month of March, we offered 25 programs for the little guys, giving them a fun and shopping-free experience together with their caregiver, whether that is a parent, nanny, grandparent, or other person.

Beginning in May we have two exciting new literacy programs for ages 0-5. We are re-launching one of my all-time favorite preschool programs, 1000 Books Before Kindergarten. One thousand books sounds daunting, but if you read just one story to a child before bed every night, you will have read 1,825 books by the time they are five years old! It's an important habit to form early, because children start learning basic reading skills about how words move across the page, and the sounds that letters and combinations of letters make. They also learn about the world and the creatures that live on it, from old (dinosaurs) to new (people a lot like them). Feelings, relationships, and experiences can all be found in a good picture book.

Not only that, but I also have been on the steering committee that is set to launch the Dolly Parton Imagination Library in Lincolnwood and the rest of Niles Township. Through Dolly Parton's generosity as well as several local sponsors, including a large contribution from the Madge Goldman Foundation, each child from birth to kindergarten can receive a book mailed to their home each month. We all know how fun it is as a child to get something in the mail, so it's another great way to build that love of reading and all that goes with it. If your zip code is 60712, your child will be eligible when the program begins. Books are carefully chosen to be developmentally appropriate, and include tips for adult readers.

There is something special about the bond that forms between an adult and a child over reading. Adults sometimes assume that their active child won't be interested, but children all love to have quiet moments snuggling with a grownup who loves them and sharing a book together. And of course the library has many many more books to choose from! You'll find more information about 1000 Books Before Kindergarten, and the Dolly Parton Imagination Library in the center spread of our newsletter. Happy reading!

Susan Dove Lempke

SUSAN DOVE LEMPKE
Director of the Lincolnwood Public Library District

FAMILY EVENTS ARE FOR KIDS AND THEIR CAREGIVERS TO ENJOY TOGETHER. ADULTS ARE REQUIRED TO STAY FOR THE PROGRAM

POETRY COMPETITION
Grades 3–12
Wed, Apr 1–Thu, Apr 30
Celebrate National Poetry Month with the Lincolnwood Library! Submit your poem for a chance to win and be recognized for your poetic achievement. Visit the Youth Services Desk for more information and an entry form.

FRIDAY FAMILY MOVIE
Ages 5+
Fri, Apr 3, Apr 24 • 2–4pm • [D]
Watch a movie with us at the library. Popcorn provided.
Apr 3: *How to Train Your Dragon* (2010)
Apr 24: *Tangled* (2010)

DONUT STORYTIME
Ages 0–10
Sat, Apr 11, Sat, May 9 • 10:30–11am • [R]
Begin your day with songs, stories, and donuts kindly provided by Schlegl's Bakery.

MISS JAMIE'S FARM
All ages
Sun, Apr 12 • 2–2:45pm • [R]
Miss Jamie and her farm animal puppet friends take you on a musical imagination adventure on the farm. Sing and dance as you learn about the animals, the seed cycle, and answer farm trivia. All ages are welcome but aimed at ages 0–5.

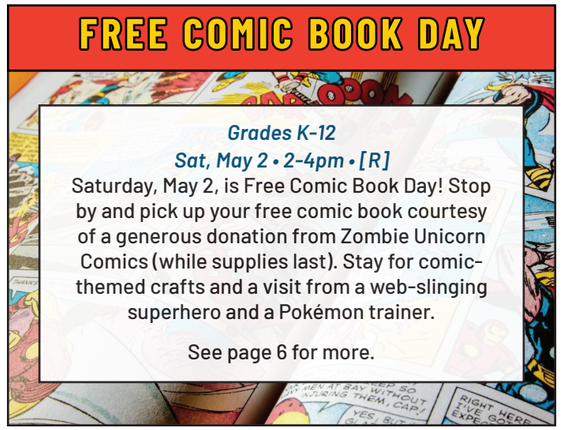
A SEED CALLED HOPE
All ages
Sun, Apr 19 • 2–2:45pm • [D]
Celebrate together at this joyful family program led by JCC Chicago. Featuring a puppet show centered on hope, growth, and caring for our world, this program is intended for ages 2-7, but all ages are welcome.

MASTERPIECE STORYTIME
Ages 0–10
Wed, Apr 29, Wed, May 27 • 6:30–7:15pm • [D]
All ages are welcome to this cozy, classic storytime. Snuggle up as we read aloud picture book masterpieces.
April books: *The Carrot Seed*, *Planting a Rainbow*, *The Bad Seed* **May books:** *Up in the Garden and Down in the Dirt*, *A Seed Is Sleepy*, *The Grumpy Ladybug*

KIDS SCIENCE LABS: HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE!
Ages 5+
Sun, May 17 • 2–3pm • [R]
Kids Science Labs' hands-on science experience unlocks curiosity, nurtures creativity, and empowers kids to become fearless problem solvers.

MUSICAL BINGO: HITS OF THE 2000S
Ages 6+
Tue, May 19 • 6:30–8pm • [R]
Relive the 2000s with Musical BINGO featuring hits by Britney Spears, Beyoncé, Justin Timberlake, OutKast, Usher, and Avril Lavigne. Songs replace numbers as you mark your card and compete for fun prizes, with a nod to the days of flip phones and TRL. *This program is best enjoyed by kids and adults, ages 6 and up. Participants under the age of 14 must participate with a family group that includes an adult.*

TEDDY BEAR TEA PARTY
Ages 4–8
Sun, May 31 • 3–3:30pm • [R]
Join Dylan and her best friend Teddy for an outdoor, picnic-style tea party with stories and snacks. Bring your favorite plushy and dress up in your teatime attire! Geared toward ages 4–8, but siblings are welcome.



Grades K-12
Sat, May 2 • 2–4pm • [R]
Saturday, May 2, is Free Comic Book Day! Stop by and pick up your free comic book courtesy of a generous donation from Zombie Unicorn Comics (while supplies last). Stay for comic-themed crafts and a visit from a web-slinging superhero and a Pokémon trainer.

See page 6 for more.

To keep storytimes allergen-free, food is not allowed. Please enjoy your snacks before or after the program in our cafe area only.

BOOK BABIES
Ages 0–18 mos with caregiver
Mondays • 9:30–10am • [D]
Play and learn with your baby during this interactive lap-sit using rhymes, songs, board books, puppets, and more.

FAMILY STORYTIME
Ages 0–5 with caregiver
Tuesdays • 10–10:30am • [D]
Read stories, sing songs, and play games at this all-ages storytime.

MUSICAL STORYTIME
Ages 0–5 with caregiver
Wednesdays • 9:30–10:15am • [D]
Sing and dance along at this musical storytime led by Michael's Music Machine. Tickets are required for this program; see our website for details.

TALES AND TUNES FOR TODDLERS
Ages 18–36 mos with caregiver
Thursdays • 10–10:30am • [D]
This active storytime features stories, musical movement, and games for 18- to 36-month-olds with a caregiver.

FRIDAY FAMILY FUN
Ages 0–5 with caregiver
Fridays • 10–11am • [D]
Your little ones will love this fun, weekly playgroup as you connect with other caregivers. Yoga for Tots will take place on Apr 17 and May 15.

SUNDAY STORYTIME
Ages 0–5 with caregiver
Sun, Apr 5, Sun, May 3 • 3:30–4pm • [D]
Read stories, sing songs, and more! Aimed at kids under 5, but older siblings are welcome to join the fun too.

PAJAMA STORYTIME
Ages 0–5 with caregiver
Thu, Apr 9, Thu, May 7 • 6:15–6:45pm • [D]
Wind down and get cozy with some bedtime stories. Feel free to wear your pajamas and bring your favorite stuffed animal!

YOGA FOR TOTS
Ages 0–5 with caregiver
Fri, Apr 17, Fri, May 15 • 10–10:30am • [D]
Keyla Ortiz, certified yoga instructor, introduces children ages 0–5 and their caregivers to yoga poses through play. Please arrive on time, as space may be limited.

SATURDAY STORIES AND PLAYTIME
Ages 0–5 with caregiver
Sat, Apr 18, Sat, May 16 • 10–10:45am • [D]
Kick off the weekend with a special Saturday storytime, followed by open playtime with the Library's collection of toys.

DOLLY DONUT STORYTIME
Ages 0–5, older siblings welcome
Sat, May 9 • 10:30–11am • [R] 🍴
Our monthly Donut Storytime gets a special twist in May to celebrate the launch of the Dolly Parton Imagination Library in Niles Township! Come for stories, songs, and snacks, and learn how your child can receive a free book from the Dolly Parton Imagination Library every month until they turn 5. See page 9 for more.

GRADES K-5

MARIO RELEASE PARTY
Grades K–5
Thu, Apr 2 • 2–2:45pm • [R] 🍴
Celebrate all things Mario in this *Super Mario Galaxy* release party. Play Mario-themed games, eat Mario-themed snacks, and have a chance to win a prize!

LEGO ROBOTICS CHALLENGES
Grades 1–5
Wed, Apr 1, Wed, May 6 • 4:15–5:15pm, 6:30–7:30pm • [R]
Experiment and grow your critical thinking, coding, and design skills through hands-on STEM learning and robotics. Take on a new challenge each month.

READING TO THE DOGS
Grades K–5
Mon, Apr 6, Mon, May 4 • 6–7pm • [R]
Build reading skills by reading next to trained dogs from Rainbow Animal Assisted Therapy. Participants will receive at least 10 minutes of personal reading time with a dog.

STEAM: EXPLORATION STATION: SEED DISPERSAL
Grades K–5
Wed, Apr 8 • 4:30–5:15pm • [R]
Design your own seed and devise how it might travel in this engineering STEAM challenge. Learn how seeds disperse and compete to get your seed to go the greatest distance.

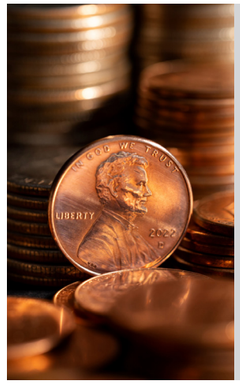
YES, AND!
Grades K–5
Mon, Apr 13, Mon, May 11 • 4–4:45pm • [R]
You be the storyteller! Come and play improv games in this fun acting program for kids.

KID CREATIVES
Grades 3–5
Wed, Apr 15, Wed, May 13 • 6:30–7:30pm • [R]
Think creatively and take home your art in this upper elementary-focused program!
April: decorate a library tote bag
May: make seed paper

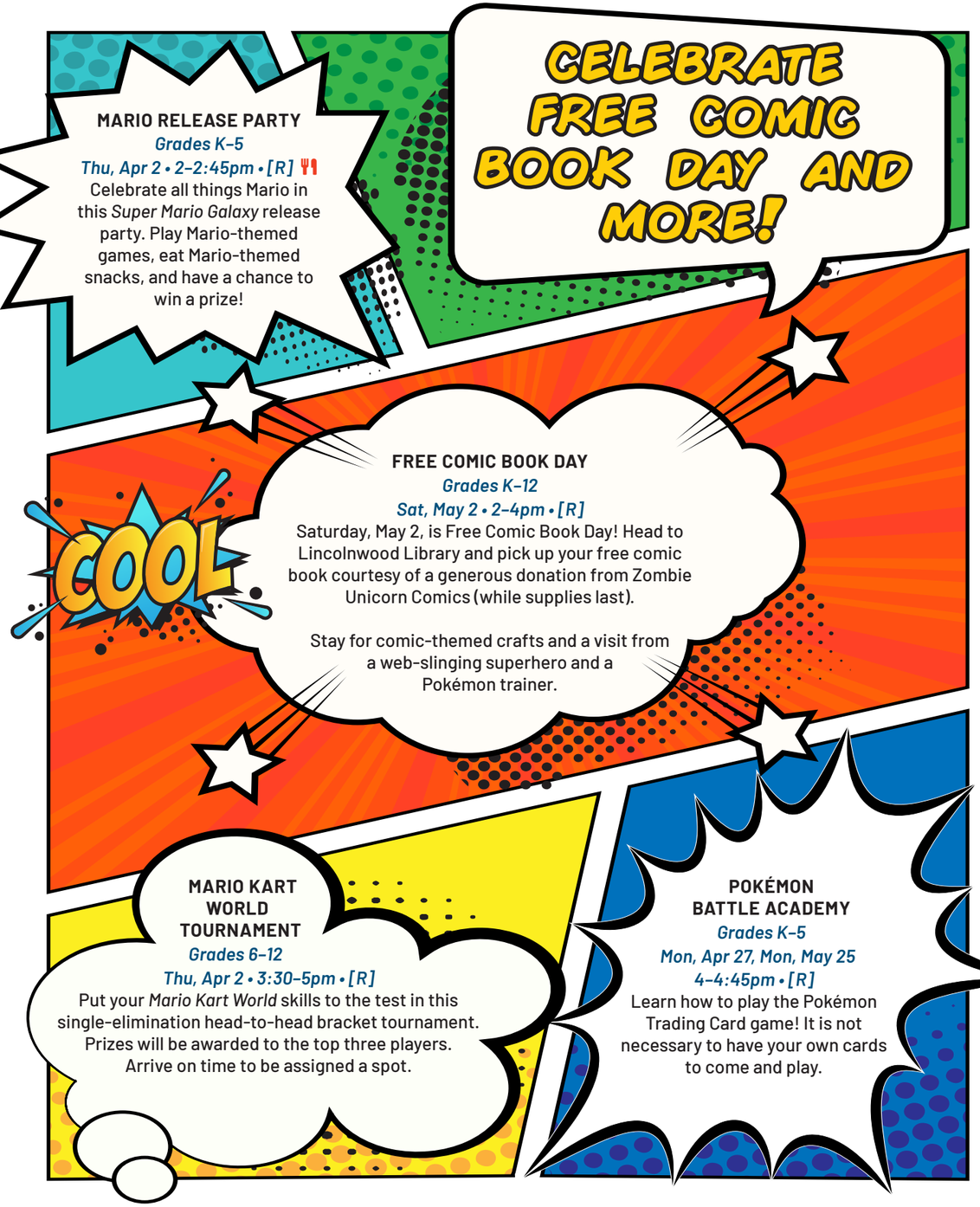
CHECKMATES! CHESS CLUB
Grades K–5
Thu, Apr 23, Thu, May 28 • 6:30–7:30pm • [R]
Develop your chess game with experienced instructor Chris Christmas. All skill levels are welcome!

POKÉMON BATTLE ACADEMY
Grades K–5
Mon, Apr 27, Mon, May 18 • 4–4:45pm • [R]
Learn how to play the Pokémon Trading Card game! It is not necessary to have your own cards to come and play.

POTATO FASHION SHOW
Grades 2–5
Thu, Apr 30 • 4–5pm • [R]
Outfit and accessorize your potato to create a fabulous look for the runway using fabrics and no-heat glue guns. Potatoes will be provided.



STEAM: EXPLORATION STATION: PENNY DREADFUL
Grades K–5
Wed, May 13 • 4:30–5:15pm • [R]
What is the difference between a penny dated before and after 1982? What happens to copper when it comes in contact with vinegar? How do you make a penny turn silver? All these questions and more will be answered as we conduct chemistry experiments with pennies!


CELEBRATE FREE COMIC BOOK DAY AND MORE!
MARIO RELEASE PARTY
Grades K–5
Thu, Apr 2 • 2–2:45pm • [R]
Celebrate all things Mario in this Super Mario Galaxy release party. Play Mario-themed games, eat Mario-themed snacks, and have a chance to win a prize!
FREE COMIC BOOK DAY
Grades K–12
Sat, May 2 • 2–4pm • [R]
Saturday, May 2, is Free Comic Book Day! Head to Lincolnwood Library and pick up your free comic book courtesy of a generous donation from Zombie Unicorn Comics (while supplies last).
Stay for comic-themed crafts and a visit from a web-slinging superhero and a Pokémon trainer.
COOL
MARIO KART WORLD TOURNAMENT
Grades 6–12
Thu, Apr 2 • 3:30–5pm • [R]
Put your Mario Kart World skills to the test in this single-elimination head-to-head bracket tournament. Prizes will be awarded to the top three players. Arrive on time to be assigned a spot.
POKÉMON BATTLE ACADEMY
Grades K–5
Mon, Apr 27, Mon, May 25
4–4:45pm • [R]
Learn how to play the Pokémon Trading Card game! It is not necessary to have your own cards to come and play.

GRADES 6–8

CUPCAKE WARS: SPRING BLING
Grades 6–8
Fri, May 8 • 3:45–4:45pm • [R]
Decorate a cupcake with all the bling, sprinkles, and frosting you like. Prizes awarded for the most delicious and original creations.

NINTENDO SWITCH 2 FREE PLAY
Grades 6–8
Sat, Apr 18, Sat, May 16 • 2–4pm • [D]
Saturdays are for Switch 2. Experience the latest and greatest Nintendo Switch 2 games with snacks and candy.

GRADES 6–12

MARIO KART WORLD TOURNAMENT
Grades 6–12
Thu, Apr 2 • 3:30–5pm • [R]
Put your *Mario Kart World* skills to the test in this single-elimination head-to-head bracket tournament. Prizes will be awarded to the top three players. Arrive on time to be assigned a spot.

SOUR CANDY SWAP
Grades 6–12
Tue, Apr 7 • 6–7pm • [R]
Bring a bag of your favorite sour candy to swap with fellow sour candy aficionados or try some of ours. Discover new favorites and taste a curated selection of the finest sour candies, handpicked by the sour candy experts at Lincolnwood Library. Candy is not required for attendance.

GRADES 9–12

TEEN BOOK BOXES
Grades 9–12
Wed, Apr 1–Thu, Apr 30 • [C]
Teen Book Boxes are free subscription-style boxes for teen bibliophiles! Each customized box contains a selected library book and other goodies to keep. Sign up in April, and we'll contact you when your Book Box is ready for pickup. For Lincolnwood Library cardholders only. You must complete the accompanying book survey to receive your box.

INTERNATIONAL SNACK EXPLORATION
Grades 6–12
Tue, Apr 14, May 12 • 4:15–5pm • [R]
Taste and rank snacks from around the world and learn about a new country each month while you munch on unique foods!

TWEEN & TEEN YOGA
Grades 6–12
Tue, Apr 21, Tue, May 19 • 7–7:45pm • [R]
Slow down and take a moment for yourself, away from screens and your feed. Keyla Ortiz, a certified yoga instructor, will guide you through gentle yoga poses to help you feel grounded and calm. Please arrive on time, as space may be limited.

TEEN CREATIVES
Grades 6–12
Mon, Apr 13, Mon, May 11 • 6:30–7:30pm • [R]
Take a walk on the creative side with teen-focused arts and crafts each month!
April: decorate library card holders
May: make summer vision boards

DEVELOP YOUR STORY: DISPOSABLE CAMERA PHOTOGRAPHY
Grades 6–12
Tue, May 26 • 7–7:45pm • [R]
Capture moments, not perfection, in this low-pressure photography program. Receive a disposable camera and an optional theme to explore. From candid snapshots to creative angles, it's all about seeing the world through your disposable lens. No experience needed—just curiosity and creativity.

1000 BOOKS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN IS GETTING A FRESH NEW LOOK!

We chatted with Head of Youth & Teen Services, Sarah Mitchell-Mace, and Youth & Teen Services librarian, Dylan Stoepel, to learn more about this program for 0-5 year olds, designed to grow future readers and support children for future learning success..

Reading 1000 books sounds like an awful lot. I don't know if we have time to do that.

We totally get it, 1000 books DOES sound like a lot. To break it up into more manageable chunks, if you read just one book a day to your child, you will finish the program in just under three years. If you read three books a day, you will finish in a year. You don't have to spend a set amount of time each day reading (although it's great if you can), reading a board book together can take just 5 minutes. We've also added some incentives to make this program memorable and fun for you and your child.

How long do we have to finish the program?

The beauty of this program is that you set the pace. Take as long as you want to from the time you sign up your child to their starting Kindergarten. This program is meant to be taken slowly. It's not a race to finish but a leisurely reading journey with your child to develop the habit of reading together everyday, and exposing them to as many new books and words as possible.

Can you tell me about the 1000 Books before Kindergarten program?

Of course! The program is designed to encourage parents and caregivers to read regularly to their young child. Reading to your child from an early age has so many benefits for them: it develops language skills, increases vocabulary, stimulates imagination, and cultivates a lifelong habit of reading. Not only does this set up your child up for future learning success, but reading together creates a special bond. With this in mind, our 1000 Books before Kindergarten program is set up to support parents and caregivers in developing these regular reading habits, with the aim of reading 1000 books to their child before they start kindergarten.

So how does the program work?

Sign up from May 1st at the YTS desk and you'll receive your reading log journal. You'll use this journal to keep track of the number of books you read, but it also becomes a keepsake of your reading journey together—for every 100 books you read, come back to the library to have a special photo taken of your child that we'll add to the journal. We know that parents and caregivers will be working hard in the program, so we wanted to help you create a special keepsake journal to record this reading journey. There's also a specially designed tote bag for the grown ups when you reach 500 books, and your child will also receive fun stickers and other rewards, such as free books, throughout the program.

My baby is only a few months old, are they too young to be read to?

No, the great news is that your child is never too young for books. In fact, children begin learning language (hearing and recognizing voices) as early as in the womb. Reading daily with your baby not only allows them to hear new words and learn language, but helps them associate books with the close bonding feeling of snuggling up together and hearing a story.

Meet our new 1000 Books Before Kindergarten mascot!

We speak in other languages, not only English, at home. Do you have children's books in different languages?

So that we can offer a wide range of stories in as many languages as possible, the Library subscribes to LOTE (Languages Other Than English) 4Kids for Lincolnwood Public Library cardholders. This online database contains picture books in over 100 languages. Simply go to www.lote4kids.com, enter Lincolnwood Public Library, then your library card number to log in and access thousands of online picture books to read or listen to with your child.

I'm worried that if I give my toddler library books, they will damage them.

Don't worry! Board books are made from sturdy cardboard and ideal for little hands to explore books—they are pretty indestructible! Ask at the Youth & Teen Services desk if you need help finding the board books. Let your child hold books and practice turning the pages so that they start to learn how books work, and let them "read' themselves!

Do you have any suggestions for what sort of books to read?

For babies and toddlers, choose board books, such as the *Baby's First* series that show real baby faces, and mimic those faces for your child. Children in this age group also love lift-the-flap books. It's fun to exaggerate lifting the flap and exclaiming the name of the item hidden under it, or anything "peek-a-boo". They'll enjoy the *Where's Spot* series by Eric Hill or lift-the-flap books by Karen Katz.

Preschoolers will start to enjoy longer stories and enjoy browsing the picture book shelves to pick out books themselves based on their favorite character or interests. Books with a lot of rhyme are fun for this group, so check out *The Gruffalo* by Julia Donaldson or the *Llama, Llama* books by Anna Dewdney. There's also so many fun picture books that invite children to interact with the character and make them feel a part of the story, such as *Crunch the Shy Dinosaur* by Cirocco Dunlap.

Come to the YTS desk for more suggestions; we love recommending books to families!

I don't always have time to get to the library to get new books for my child.

We're excited to share that starting soon, your child will be able to start building their own library at home! Niles Township has signed up to partner with the Dolly Parton Imagination Library, which will send children living in Niles Township, between birth to 5 years, a new book to keep every month until they turn 5 years old. To learn more, stop by the Youth & Teen Services Desk or read more on this page.

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is coming to Niles Township!

- Do you have a child between 0-5 years old?
- Do you live in one of these zip codes?
  - Lincolnwood: 60712
  - Golf: 60029
  - Morton Grove: 60053
  - Niles: 60714
  - Skokie: 60076, 60077, 60203

If the answer is "yes" to both questions, your child can receive a free book monthly from Dolly Parton's Imagination Library! Find out more at our Dolly Donut Storytime on May 9 or ask at the Youth & Teen Services Desk.

DOLLY DONUT STORYTIME

Ages 0–5, older siblings welcome
Sat, May 9 • 10:30-11am • [R]

Our monthly Donut Storytime gets a special twist in May to celebrate the launch of the Dolly Parton Imagination Library in Niles Township! Come for stories, songs, and snacks, and learn how your child can receive a free book from the Dolly Parton Imagination Library every month until they turn 5. (Families must live in one of the zip codes listed above to join).

ILLINOIS LIBRARIES PRESENT

Enjoy these live, virtual events from the comfort of your home. ***These programs will not be shown at the library.***

CRISTINA HENRÍQUEZ: VOICE, CULTURE, AND HUMAN CONNECTION

Thu, Apr 16 • 7–8pm • [Z] Live on Zoom

In this online interview, critically acclaimed, bestselling author, Cristina Henríquez, will discuss her work. Her newest book, *The Great Divide*, named a *New York Times* Editors' Choice selection and *TIME* Magazine "100 Must-Read Books of 2024, is a moving exploration of the people who lived, loved, and labored during the construction of the Panama Canal.

BABEL-ON WITH R.F. KUANG

Tue, May 19 • 7–8pm • [Z] Live on Zoom

Register and join us on Zoom with R.F. Kuang, whose genre-bending fiction broaches ordinarily serious topics from a satirical and fantastical perspective. Academic yet approachable, Kuang's work combines history, magic, and classical literary tradition to render powerful critiques of academia, the publishing industry, and even contemporary popular culture.

MAKING THE MOST OF SOCIAL SECURITY

Tue, Apr 7 • 7–8:30pm • [R]

Do you want to get the most out of your Social Security? Discover strategies to boost your monthly lifetime benefits beyond standard filing options. This seminar from The Dala Group offers tailored guidance for singles, married couples, divorced individuals, and widows. You'll also learn about earned income limits and how Social Security benefits are taxed—key information to help you make informed retirement decisions.

CHAIR YOGA WITH JOAN

Thu, Apr 9, May 14 • 6:30–7:30pm • [R]

Chair yoga is back in person! Practice seated poses in one of the gentlest forms of yoga available, led by certified yoga instructor Joan McGee. All experience levels are welcome. *Wear comfy clothes and shoes!*

WILLS, TRUSTS, AND ESTATE PLANNING BASICS

Tue, Apr 14 • 7–8:30pm • [R]

Learn from attorney Jacob K. Ehrensaft about wills, trusts, powers of attorney, probate, and guardianship. Take the first step to create or update a plan that is appropriate for you.

YOU CAN BREW IT!

Wed, Apr 15 • 6:30–8pm • [R]

Do you enjoy good quality craft beer? Home brewing is a fun and rewarding hobby that is enjoyed by millions of people all over the world. Award-winning master home brewer Scott Pointon will discuss the equipment, ingredients, brewing process, and resources available to would-be brew masters.

GENTLE MOVES FOR STRENGTH & STABILITY

THU, APR 16, MAY 21 • 10–11AM • [R]

This gentle movement class is designed to help adults improve mobility, balance, and body awareness. Participants will be guided through light exercises that focus on activating key muscle groups while relaxing others, helping to build better control and coordination for everyday movement. *Participants must bring their own yoga mat or a beach towel. Wear comfy clothes and shoes!*

EASY DOES IT YOGA

Thu, Apr 23, May 28 • 6:30–7:30pm • [R]

Easy Does It Yoga is back in person! Join certified yoga instructor Joan McGee for yoga, a practice that can improve your flexibility, concentration, and strength, while boosting your mood and reducing stress and joint strain. *Participants must bring their own yoga mat or a beach towel. Yoga blocks are optional. All experience levels are welcome. Wear comfy clothes and shoes!*

SUNDAY AFTERNOON WITH LAKESIDE FLUTES

Sun, Apr 26 • 2–3pm • [R]

Lakeside Flutes, a flute choir founded in 1987, is an ensemble of flutists from the greater Chicago area. They introduce the public to a wide variety of flute literature from the styles of classical, pop, jazz, and contemporary.

THE LIFE AND TIMES OF BABE RUTH

Tue, Apr 28 • 6:30–7:30pm • [R]

Gary Livacari presents a look at the life and times of Babe Ruth, from his difficult early childhood and years at St. Mary's Industrial School for Boys, to his rise as one of baseball's most iconic figures. The program also highlights Ruth's personal journey and the relationships that shaped his life beyond the ballpark.

CAMBODIAN MUSIC: THE LIVING TRADITION

Sun, May 3 • 2–3pm • [R]

Crossing Borders Music joins the National Cambodian Heritage Museum Traditional Music Ensemble for an amazing fusion of Cambodian and European traditional instruments performing Cambodian classics! The performance features new arrangements made for the Cambodian Day of Remembrance by former Crossing Borders Music violinist Rasa Mahmoudian, and overseen by Nisa Pov, Resident Artist of the Cambodian Museum.

BECAUSE I MATTER: BREAST CANCER EDUCATION

Mon, May 11 • 6:30–8pm • [R]

Hosted by the University of Illinois Extension, this session introduces the MammaCare® Method for breast self-examination. A certified instructor reviews breast cancer risk factors, signs and symptoms, and demonstrates proper technique using tactually accurate models. While not a diagnostic tool, breast self-examination can support awareness and prompt timely medical care.

CHEESE BLINTZES DEMONSTRATION

Wed, May 13 • 6:30–8pm • [R] 🍴

Cookbook author Emily Paster presents a demonstration of cheese blintzes in honor of Jewish American Heritage Month and the upcoming festival of Shavuot. Samples will be provided. *Please be aware that this program is not kosher and the food served does not meet kosher dietary standards.*

NARCAN TRAINING

Wed, May 20 • 6:30–7:30pm • [R]

Opioid overdoses remain a serious concern, with 487 opioid- involved deaths in suburban Cook County in 2020. The University of Illinois Extension offers training on opioid use trends, overdose response, and how to administer nasal naloxone. Free naloxone will be distributed in partnership with the Cook County Department of Public Health at the conclusion of the program.

MURDER MYSTERY NIGHT

Fri, May 15 • 6–7:30pm • [R] 🍴

A retirement party at the Lincolnwood Public Library takes a shocking turn when a sudden "accident" is ruled a murder. With six suspects under investigation, Detective Angie needs help uncovering the truth. Work solo or form a team to follow clues, question motives, and solve the case. Light refreshments and small appetizers will be served as you put your detective skills to the test. Doors open at 6pm. Murder mystery content is intended for adults and teens.

INTRO TO REGIONAL COFFEES

Sun, May 17 • 2–3:15pm • [R] 🍴

Enjoy coffee samples while exploring the world's three major coffee-growing regions with Nikki Zimmerman. This program compares regional flavor profiles using guided tastings and food pairings, with additional discussion of coffee history, brewing methods, grinds, and other essentials for coffee lovers.

MUSICAL BINGO - HITS OF THE 2000S

Tue, May 19 • 6:30–8pm • [R]

Relive the 2000s with Musical BINGO featuring hits by Britney Spears, Beyoncé, Justin Timberlake, OutKast, Usher, and Avril Lavigne. Songs replace numbers as you mark your card and compete for fun prizes, with a nod to the days of flip phones and TRL. *This program is best enjoyed by kids and adults, ages 6 and up. Participants under the age of 14 must participate with a family group that includes an adult.*

AN INTRODUCTION TO PFLAG AND LGBTQ+ BASICS

Tue, May 26 • 6:30–7:30pm • [R]

Learn about your local PFLAG Evanston chapter, its mission, and the ways it supports LGBTQ+ individuals and their families. This program also introduces key LGBTQ+ concepts, including pronouns, name changes, and available health care and legal resources. Time will be reserved for questions and discussion.

FINANCIAL FITNESS: BUDGETING AND SAVINGS BASICS WITH RYAN DECKER

Thu, Apr 9 • 7–8pm • [Z] Live on Zoom

Presented as part of the Financial Fitness 2026 series, this online program features financial professional Ryan Decker, discussing budgeting, saving, investing, and debt management. Participants will also receive resources for further learning.

FINANCIAL FITNESS: BUYING A HOME–THE BASICS WITH OPEN COMMUNITIES

Mon, Apr 13 • 7–8pm • [Z] Live on Zoom

Presented as part of the Financial Fitness 2026 series, this online program provides an overview of what it takes to purchase a home. This course covers what lenders look for in a loan application, credit basics, down payments, and the players in the home-buying process.

FINANCIAL FITNESS: RETIREMENT REALITY WITH JILL SCHLESINGER

Tue, Apr 21 • 7–8pm • [Z] Live on Zoom

Presented as part of the Financial Fitness 2026 series, this online program features CBS News Business Analyst Jill Schlesinger, CFP, discussing practical steps toward retirement planning. The program addresses strategies for those early in their careers, as well as those preparing to wind down, helping demystify personal finances and build confidence for the future.

MONDAY MORNING BOOK DISCUSSION

THE NAMES
BY FLORENCE KNAPP

Mon, Apr 13 • 11am–12pm • [R][H]

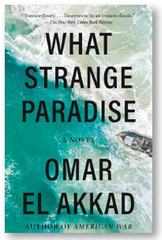
A haunting and inventive novel that follows one family across multiple possible lives shaped by a single, seemingly small decision. Through shifting perspectives and timelines, the book explores identity, motherhood, grief, and the lasting power of names.

REAL AMERICANS
BY RACHEL KHONG

Mon, May 11 • 11am–12pm • [R][H]

A sweeping and intimate novel that examines family, ambition, and what it means to belong in America. Spanning generations and perspectives, it explores identity, inheritance, and the choices that shape who we become.

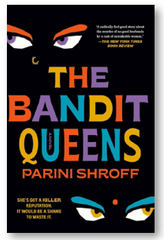
BOOKS IN THE WOODS



WHAT STRANGE PARADISE
BY OMAR EL AKKAD

Mon, Apr 27 • 7–8pm • [R][H]

This novel is the story of Amir, a Syrian refugee who washes up on an island after the ship he was escaping on collapses, and Vanna, the teenage girl native to the island who finds him. Though Vanna and Amir are complete strangers, though they don't speak a common language, Vanna is determined to do whatever it takes to save the boy.



THE BANDIT QUEENS
BY PARINI SHROFF

Mon, May 18 • 7–8pm • [R][H]

Geeta's no-good husband disappeared five years ago. She didn't kill him, but everyone thinks she did. Freedom must look good on her, because other women in the village have started asking for her help to get rid of their own no-good husbands…but not all of them are asking nicely. Now that Geeta's fearsome reputation has become a double-edged sword, she must decide how far to go to protect it.

CREATE

KNITTING SOCIAL CIRCLE

Wednesdays • 11am–12:30pm • [D]

Share tips and show off your work with needle-art enthusiasts.

EAT • CRAFT • WATCH

Thu, Apr 2, May 7 • 6:30–9pm • [D]

Calling all crafters! Gather together over snacks, movies, and dedicated time for creating what you love. We'll decide as a group what to watch while enjoying each other's company and working on our own projects. As long as you can get your supplies through the door, your craft is welcome.

INTERMEDIATE CROCHET: FLOWER GRANNY SQUARE

Sun, Apr 19 • 2–3:30pm • [C]

Take your crochet skills to the next level! This workshop focuses on creating flower granny squares and is perfect for those already comfortable with basic stitches.

SUNRISE PAINTING WORKSHOP FOR OLDER ADULTS

Tue, Apr 21 • 10:30am–12pm • [R]

Artist and Lincolnwood resident Shirley Aberg, who has exhibited her work all around the world, returns to lead a workshop on painting a sunrise. Choose from a variety of inspirations and let your creativity guide your work. Shirley will be available for advice and tips along the way.

COUNTING NAILS, CROSSING STRINGS & CREATING MAGIC WITH PINLURA CREATION

Wed, Apr 22 • 6:30–8:30pm • [C]

Explore the intersection of math and creativity through string art. Learn patterns, counting, and geometry while crafting a unique handmade design.

***PLEASE NOTE:** We want everyone to have the chance to enjoy our programs so if you are more than 10 minutes late, your spot may be offered to someone on the waitlist.*

DECOUPAGE TRINKET BOX

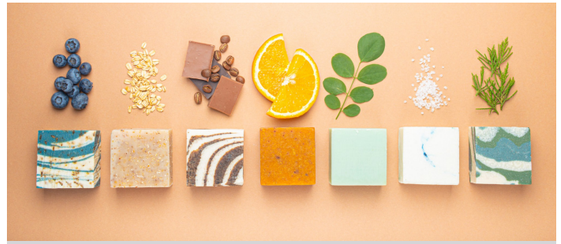
Wed, Apr 29 • 6:30–8pm • [C]

In this workshop with Liz from BrentArt, you will learn the art of decoupage to decorate your own wooden trinket box.

WATERCOLOR LOOSE FLORALS: TULIPS

Tue, May 5 • 6:30–7:45pm • [C]

Let loose with watercolor as you learn how to paint with Audrey Ra Design, a local teaching artist. In this workshop, you'll learn how to paint tulips in a loose style.



NATURAL SOAP-MAKING 101

Tue, May 12 • 6–7:30pm • [C]

Join Soapy Roads of Lombard for a hands-on natural soap-making program. Enjoy a people and planet-friendly educational presentation in addition to crafting your own custom melt-and-pour goat's milk soap at the mobile soap bar.

RESIN KEYCHAINS

Wed, May 27 • 6:30–7:45pm • [C]

Craft your own resin keychain in this creative hands-on workshop! We'll guide you through the process of mixing, pouring, and decorating your own one-of-a-kind piece. Gloves and masks will be provided and are required during the activity. Please note the keychain will take 24 hours to cure and can be picked up the next day.

WIRE-WRAPPED DANGLE EARRINGS

Sun, May 31 • 2–4pm • [C]

Join jewelry artist and Inventive Wire Weaving author Susan Barzacchini for a hands-on workshop where you'll learn how to craft beautifully intricate wire-wrapped dangle earrings. This engaging session is perfect for anyone curious about creative jewelry techniques. Reading glasses are recommended if you use them for this craft.

GATHER

LINCOLNWOOD WRITES: WRITING CLUB
Wed, Apr 1, May 6 • 7–9pm • [R][H]
Whether you're writing for fun or to be published someday, foster your creativity with like-minded authors in this monthly group. Bring in original work to be read aloud and get constructive feedback from your peers. Ages high school and up.

AFTERNOON SCRABBLE!
Thu, Apr 16, May 14 • 1–3pm • [R]
Enjoy a fun and relaxed game of Scrabble at the library. All experience levels are welcome, from seasoned word lovers to first time players. The boards and tiles are provided, just bring your love of words and get ready to strategize and score.

MAH JONGG
Tuesdays • 1–3pm • [D]
Meet other enthusiasts and play the Chinese tile-based game of Mah Jongg. Beginners welcome.

TECH

SPRING CLEAN YOUR PHONE
Fri, Apr 10 • 1:30–3pm • [R]
Clean up your smartphone by deleting unused apps, managing notifications, and reviewing privacy settings. This hands-on session includes individual assistance from the instructor. Please bring your Apple or Google account passwords, as they may be needed to adjust your settings.

CANVA MAKER WORKSHOP: BUSINESS & CONTACT CARDS
Thu, May 21 • 6:30–8pm • [R]
Learn to use a Canva template to customize and make small cards for your business or personal information. Completed designs will be printed for you to pick up the following week.

If you're not at all familiar with Canva, please arrive by 6:30pm for a brief introduction and (free) account setup. Card instructions and hands-on time for designing the cards will begin at 7pm—regular Canva users are welcome to arrive then.

CELEBRATE THE SEASON OF GROWTH:
Creativity for Mind and Spirit
Thousands of Free online art and craft classes available now through your library!
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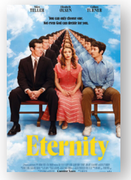
MONDAY MATINEES

Enjoy great films at your library every Monday!
Doors open at 12:45pm.

APRIL



***ETERNITY* (2025)**
Mon, Apr 6 • 1–3pm • PG-13, 112 mins • [D]
In an afterlife where souls have one week to decide where to spend eternity, Joan is faced with the impossible choice between the man she spent her life with and her first love, who died young and has waited decades for her to arrive.

***SINNERS* (2025)**
Mon, Apr 13 • 1–3:30pm • R, 128 mins • [D]
Trying to leave their troubled lives behind, twin brothers return to their hometown to start again, only to discover that an even greater evil is waiting to welcome them back.

***SONG SUNG BLUE* (2025)**
Mon, Apr 20 • 1–3:30pm • PG-13, 133 mins • [D]
Two down-on-their-luck performers form a Neil Diamond tribute band, proving it's never too late to find love and follow your dreams.

***HAMNET* (2025)**
Mon, Apr 27 • 1–3:30pm • PG-13, 125 mins • [D]
William Shakespeare and his wife, Agnes, celebrate the birth of their son, Hamnet. However, when tragedy strikes and Hamnet dies at a young age, it inspires Shakespeare to write his timeless masterpiece Hamlet.

MAY

***THE HOUSEMAID* (2025)**
Mon, May 4 • 1–3:30pm • R, 131 mins • [D]
Millie is a struggling woman who is relieved to get a fresh start as a housemaid to Nina and Andrew, an upscale, wealthy couple. She soon learns that the family's secrets are far more dangerous than her own.

***BUGONIA* (2024)**
Mon, May 11 • 1–3:30pm • R, 120 mins • [D]
A couple of conspiracy theorists get in over their heads and decide to kidnap the CEO of a large corporation. The duo believes she is an undercover alien with her sights set on taking over and destroying Earth. Now, she will be held captive until she can prove otherwise.

***IS THIS THING ON?* (2025)**
Mon, May 18 • 1-3:15pm • R, 121 mins • [D]
As their marriage unravels, Alex faces middle age and divorce, seeking new purpose in the New York comedy scene. Meanwhile, his wife Tess confronts sacrifices made for their family, forcing them to navigate co-parenting and identities.

There will be no Monday Matinee on Mon, May 25 due to the library being closed for Memorial Day

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